of PSEs. Government have also laid down criteria regarding age, educational qualifications and professional experience in this regard. Independent Directors are selected from various fields like reputed management professionals, academics, former government servants, former chief executives of corporate sector/public sector enterprises and persons of eminence with proven track record from industry, business or agriculture.

(c) to (e) These instructions also provided that independent Directors are to be appointed from a panel prepared by Department of Public Enterprises in consultation with Public Enterprises Selection Board and the concerned Administrative Ministry/Department which also initiated the proposals in this regard.

Transfer of ownerships of HMT units

2207. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRY AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ex-employees of HMT Ltd. and those who are running the ancilliary units of the company have made a request to the management for transfer of ownership in them in view of the financial difficulties experienced by HMT in supporting these units; and

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) HMT Ancilliary Units Enterpreneur's Association has been representing for transfer of ownership of the Industrial Sheds to the licensees at a concessional rate. The management has conveyed that the transfer of ownership of the industrial sheds can take place at the prevailing market prices as per the policy of the Company and due to its own financial difficulties. The Company has sold 5 Industrial Sheds in the past to the highest bidders through tender process as well as to erstwhile licensee of the shed at the prevailing market rate during June 2003 to October 2003 and January 2005.